

Appln No. 10/603,362

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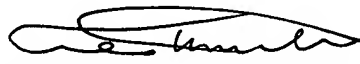
**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 9-23 are currently pending in this application.  
Claims 1-8 are cancelled and claims 17-23 are added.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14 and 16 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,611,568. Claims 1-8 have been cancelled. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 9-16 are allowed. Applicants submit that the new claims 17-23 are also patentable over the cited references, and reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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